IN THE CLAIMS:

Please continue claims 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6, inclusive.

Please amend claims 4, 7, 8, 9 and claims 16, 17, and 18, as attached hereto.

Please cancel claims 10-15 and claim 19, as indicated.

In response to the Examiner's Office Action of April 19, 2004, Applicants have reviewed the specification to make a corrective amendment, and also have attended to the claims which Examiner deemed objectionable, but allowable if written to include the earlier claimed dependencies.

Thus, claims 7, 8 and 9, have now been re-written to include the limitations of claim 6 and claim 1.

Likewise, claims 16, 17 and 18 have been re-written to include the limitations of claims 10 and 15.

1. (Original) In a computer system including a server accessing a database and a magnetic tape drive, a method for locating a group of audit files from said database on tape, said method comprising the steps of:

> (a) creating a Tapeset for said group of audit files;
>
> (b) initializing a disk directory file to hold positional information of said Tapeset;
>
> (c) for each audit file within said group of audit files, locating said audit file within said Tapeset using said positional information.

2. (Original)   The method as in Claim 1 wherein said group of audit files consists of one or more audit files.

3. (Original)   The method as in Claim 1 wherein said step of
locating said audit files within said Tapeset also applies to an
already existing Tapeset and an already existing disk directory
file.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1 wherein said step for creating said Tapeset includes the steps of:

> (a1) selecting a name to uniquely identify said group of audit files;
>
> (a2) creating a tape volume marker file with said name;
>
> (a3) writing said tape volume marker file to each volume within said Tapeset[;].

5. (Original)   The method as in Claim 1 wherein said step for initializing said disk directory file includes the steps of:

> (b1) creating a disk directory file;
>
> (b2) inserting a disk record as a first entry in said directory file.

6. (Original) The method as in Claim 1 wherein said step of locating said audit file within said Tapeset includes the steps of:

> (c1) determining if said step of locating said audit file is for appending or for retrieving said audit file;
>
> (c2) if said step of locating said audit file is for appending purposes, appending said audit file to said Tapeset;
>
> (c3) if said step of locating said audit file is for retrieving purposes, retrieving said audit file from said Tapeset.

7. (Currently Amended) In a computer system including a server accessing a database and a magnetic tape drive, a method for locating a group of audit files from said database on tape, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) creating a Tapeset for said group of audit files;

(b) initializing a disk directory file to hold positional information of said Tapeset;

(c) for each audit file within said group of audit files, locating said audit file within said Tapeset using said positional information.

(c1) determining if said step of locating said audit file is for appending or for retrieving said audit file;

[[The Method as in claim 6 wherein said step of appending said audit file includes the steps of:]]

(c2) if said step of locating said audit file is for appending purposes, appending said audit file to said Tapeset;

(c2a) opening said tape volume marker file;

(c2b) opening said disk directory file;

(c2c) determining a tape volume within said Tapeset for an audit file number preceding said audit file using information from said disk directory file;

(c2d) if said tape volume is not loaded on said magnetic tape drive, closing a logical

tape for said tape volume and displaying a message to load said tape volume;

(c2e) fast-locating to an end position of said preceding audit file number using information from said disk directory file;

(c2f) closing said logical tape for said tape volume;

(c2g) appending said audit file at said end position;

(c2h) updating said disk directory file with information of said audit file message to load said tape volume[[.]];

(c3) if said step of locating said audit file is for retrieving purposes, retrieving said audit file from said Tapeset.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim [[6]] 7 wherein said step (c3) of retrieving said audit file includes the steps of:

(c3a) opening said tape volume marker file;

(c3b) opening said disk directory file;

(c3c) determining a tape volume within said Tapeset for an audit file number matching said audit file using information from said disk directory file;

(c3d) if said tape volume is not loaded on said magnetic tape drive, closing a logical tape for said tape volume and displaying a message to load said tape volume;

(c3e) fast-locating to an end position of said matching audit file number using information from said disk directory file;

(c3f) closing said logical tape for said tape volume;

(c3g) opening said audit file at said start position of said matching audit file number.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 7 wherein said step (c2h) of updating said disk directory file with information of said audit file includes the steps of:

(c2ha) creating an audit record entry in said disk directory file;

(c2hb) obtaining a starting position of said audit file;

(c2hc) recording said starting position into said audit record entry;

(c2hd) obtaining an end position of said audit file;

(c2he) recording said end position into said audit record entry.

10.   (Cancelled).

11.   (Cancelled).

12.   (Cancelled).

13.   (Cancelled).

14.   (Cancelled).

15.   (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A storage medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for locating a group of audit files from a database maintained on tape, wherein, when the computer program code is executed by a computer, the computer performs the steps of:

(a) creating a Tapeset for said group of audit files;

(b) initializing a disk directory file to hold positional information of said Tapeset;

(c) for each audit file within said group of audit files, locating said audit file within said Tapeset and including the steps of:

(c1) determining if said step of locating said audit file is for appending or for retrieving said audit file;

(c2) if said step of locating said audit file is for appending purposes, appending said audit file to said Tapeset which includes the steps of:

[[16. The method as in claim 15 wherein said step of appending said audit file includes the steps of:]]

(c2a) opening said tape volume marker file;

(c2b) opening said disk directory file;

(c2c) determining a tape volume within said Tapeset for an audit file number preceding said audit file using information from said disk directory file;

(c2d) if said tape volume is not loaded on said magnetic tape drive, closing a logical tape for said tape volume and displaying a message to load said tape volume;

(c2e) fast-locating to an end position in said tape volume of said preceding audit file number using information from said disk directory file;

(c2f) closing said logical tape for said tape volume;

(c2g) appending said audit file in said tape volume at said end position;

(c2h) updating said disk directory file with information of said audit file.

(c3) if said step of locating said audit file is for retrieving purposes, retrieving said audit file from said Tapeset.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim [[15]] 16 wherein said step (c3) of retrieving said audit file includes the steps of:

(c3a) opening said tape volume marker file;

(c3b) opening said disk directory file;

(c3c) determining a tape volume within said Tapeset for an audit file number matching said audit file using information from said disk directory file;

(c3d) if said tape volume is not loaded on said magnetic tape drive, closing a logical tape for said tape volume and displaying a message to load said tape volume;

(c3e) fast-locating to an end position of said matching audit file number using information from said disk directory file;

(c3f) closing said logical tape for said tape volume;

(c3g) opening said audit file at said end position.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 16 wherein said step (c2h) of updating said disk directory file with information of said audit file includes the steps of:

(c3a) creating an audit record entry in said disk directory file;

(c3b) obtaining a starting position of said audit file;

(c3d) recording said starting position into said audit record entry;

(c3e) obtaining an end position of said audit file;

(c3f) recording said end position into said audit record entry.

19. (Cancelled).